

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 2811

To authorize certain atmospheric, weather, and satellite programs and functions of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 30, 1993

Mr. HALL of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

---

## A BILL

To authorize certain atmospheric, weather, and satellite programs and functions of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “National Oceanic and  
5       Atmospheric Administration Atmospheric and Satellite  
6       Program Authorization Act of 1993”.

1     **TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION OF**  
2                   **APPROPRIATIONS**

3     **SEC. 101. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE.**

4           (a) OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH.—There are au-  
5     thorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Commerce  
6     (in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) to enable the  
7     National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to  
8     carry out the operations and research duties of the Na-  
9     tional Weather Service, \$473,256,000 for fiscal year 1994  
10    and \$492,185,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such duties in-  
11    clude meteorological, hydrological, and oceanographic pub-  
12    lic warnings and forecasts, as well as applied research in  
13    support of such warnings and forecasts.

14          (b) SYSTEMS ACQUISITION.—There are authorized to  
15    be appropriated to the Secretary to enable the National  
16    Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry out the  
17    public warning and forecast systems duties of the National  
18    Weather Service, \$76,299,000 for fiscal year 1994 and  
19    \$71,115,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such duties include the  
20    development, acquisition, and implementation of major  
21    public warning and forecast systems. Funds authorized  
22    under this subsection shall be in addition to funds author-  
23    ized under section 102(b) of the National Oceanic and At-  
24    mospheric Administration Authorization Act of 1992  
25    (Public Law 102–567). No funds may be expended for

1 Next Generation Doppler Weather Radar (NEXRAD) ac-  
2 quisition until the requirements of such section 102(b)  
3 have been fulfilled by the Secretary. None of the funds  
4 for NEXRAD authorized by such section 102(b) shall be  
5 obligated unless the NEXRAD appears in the National  
6 Implementation Plan for Modernization of the National  
7 Weather Service, required under section 703 of the Na-  
8 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Author-  
9 ization Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-567), for fiscal year  
10 1994, or are to be used only for spare parts, not installa-  
11 tion at a particular site.

12 (c) CONSTRUCTION OF NEXRAD FACILITIES.—  
13 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary  
14 to enable the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Adminis-  
15 tration to carry out construction, repair, and modification  
16 activities relating to new and existing Next Generation  
17 Doppler Weather Radar (NEXRAD) facilities at weather  
18 forecast offices, \$62,784,000 for fiscal year 1994 and  
19 \$20,580,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such activities include  
20 planning, design, and land acquisition related to such  
21 facilities.

22 **SEC. 102. ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH.**

23 (a) CLIMATE AND AIR QUALITY RESEARCH.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be  
25 appropriated to the Secretary to enable the National

1 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry  
2 out its climate and air quality research duties,  
3 \$105,922,000 for fiscal year 1994 and  
4 \$138,737,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such duties in-  
5 clude interannual and seasonal climate research and  
6 long-term climate and air quality research.

7 (2) CLIMATE AND GLOBAL CHANGE.—Of the  
8 sums authorized under paragraph (1), \$66,902,000  
9 for fiscal year 1994 and \$84,573,000 for fiscal year  
10 1995 are authorized to be appropriated for the pur-  
11 poses of studying climate and global change, includ-  
12 ing global observations, monitoring, and data and in-  
13 formation management relating to the study of  
14 changes in the Earth's climatic system, and fun-  
15 damental research on oceanic and atmospheric proc-  
16 esses critical to climate prediction and diagnostics.

17 (b) ATMOSPHERIC PROGRAMS.—There are author-  
18 ized to be appropriated to the Secretary to enable the Na-  
19 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry  
20 out its atmospheric research duties, \$42,103,000 for fiscal  
21 year 1994 and \$52,980,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such du-  
22 ties include research for developing improved prediction  
23 capabilities for atmospheric processes, as well as solar-  
24 terrestrial research and services.

1 **SEC. 103. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA,**  
2 **AND INFORMATION SERVICE.**

3 (a) SATELLITE OBSERVING SYSTEMS.—There are  
4 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to enable  
5 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to  
6 carry out its satellite observing systems duties,  
7 \$206,383,000 for fiscal year 1994 and \$264,890,000 for  
8 fiscal year 1995, except that no funds may be expended  
9 for Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite ac-  
10 quisition until the requirements of section 105(d) of the  
11 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Au-  
12 thorization Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–567) have been  
13 fulfilled by the Secretary. Such duties include spacecraft  
14 procurement, launch, and associated ground station sys-  
15 tem changes involving polar orbiting and geostationary en-  
16 vironmental satellites, as well as the operation of such sat-  
17 ellites. Funds authorized under this subsection shall be in  
18 addition to funds authorized under section 105(d) of the  
19 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Au-  
20 thorization Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–567).

21 (b) ENVIRONMENTAL DATA AND INFORMATION  
22 SERVICES.—There are authorized to be appropriated to  
23 the Secretary to enable the National Oceanic and Atmos-  
24 pheric Administration to carry out its environmental data  
25 and information services duties, \$34,068,000 for fiscal  
26 year 1994 and \$60,662,000 for fiscal year 1995. Such du-

1 ties include climate data services, geophysical data serv-  
2 ices, and environmental assessment and information  
3 services.

4 **SEC. 104. PROGRAM SUPPORT.**

5 (a) ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICES.—There are au-  
6 thorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for Adminis-  
7 tration and Services, \$73,319,000 for fiscal year 1994 and  
8 \$76,252,000 for fiscal year 1995.

9 (b) AIRCRAFT SERVICES.—There are authorized to  
10 be appropriated to the Secretary for Aircraft Services and  
11 Aircraft Critical Safety and Instrumentation, \$9,495,000  
12 for fiscal year 1994 and \$9,875,000 for fiscal year 1995.

13 **TITLE II—MISCELLANEOUS**  
14 **PROVISIONS**

15 **SEC. 201. STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RE-**  
16 **SEARCH LABORATORIES.**

17 (a) ASSESSMENT.—The Secretary shall conduct an  
18 assessment of the adequacy of the resources provided for  
19 the Environmental Research Laboratories of the National  
20 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. In conducting  
21 such assessment, the Secretary shall take into consider-  
22 ation—

23 (1) the capacity of the Environmental Research  
24 Laboratories to process and disseminate environ-  
25 mental data and information collected and proc-

1       essed, or expected to be collected and processed, by  
2       the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-  
3       tion and other appropriate Federal departments and  
4       agencies;

5           (2) the mission of the Environment Research  
6       Laboratories to provide solar-terrestrial services to  
7       the Nation;

8           (3) the ability of the Environmental Research  
9       Laboratories to provide continued support for the  
10      modernization of weather services;

11          (4) the responsibilities of the Environmental  
12      Research Laboratories to monitor, assess, and pre-  
13      dict changes in the Earth's climate; and

14          (5) the capability of the Environmental Re-  
15      search Laboratories to integrate and interpret sci-  
16      entific data in order to provide information useful to  
17      policy makers for responding to national and global  
18      environmental concerns.

19      (b) COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PLAN.—Not later  
20      than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the  
21      Secretary shall develop and submit to the Committee on  
22      Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and  
23      the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the  
24      House of Representatives a comprehensive strategic plan,  
25      based on the assessment conducted under subsection (a),

1 to modernize and improve the Environmental Research  
2 Laboratories of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
3 Administration. The assessment conducted under sub-  
4 section (a) shall be submitted along with such plan.

5 **SEC. 202. HYDROLOGICAL RESEARCH AND FLOOD FORE-**  
6 **CAST MODERNIZATION REPORT.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the  
8 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consulta-  
9 tion with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies,  
10 shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Commerce,  
11 Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Com-  
12 mittee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House  
13 of Representatives a report identifying the actions re-  
14 quired to improve the hydrological research programs and  
15 to modernize the Flood Forecasting System of the Na-  
16 tional Weather Service.

17 (b) REPORT CONTENTS.—The report required under  
18 subsection (a) shall include consideration of—

19 (1) current, planned, and potential technological  
20 improvements in the collection of observational  
21 hydrological data;

22 (2) use of additional satellite remote-sensing  
23 data and airborne surveys, including those systems  
24 operated by other Federal agencies, for hydrological  
25 data collection;



1           (3) improvements in data analysis and com-  
2       puter modeling in support of flood forecasts and pre-  
3       dictions; and

4           (4) full integration of the River Forecast Cen-  
5       ters in the National Weather Service Modernization  
6       Plan.

7       **SEC. 203. NOTICE OF REPROGRAMMING.**

8           (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide notice  
9       to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-  
10      tation of the Senate and to the Committee on Science,  
11      Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives,  
12      not less than 15 days before reprogramming funds avail-  
13      able for a program, project, or activity of the National  
14      Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in an amount  
15      greater than the lesser of \$250,000 or 5 percent of the  
16      total funding of such program, project, or activity, if the  
17      reprogramming—

18           (1) augments an existing program, project, or  
19      activity;

20           (2) reduces by 5 percent or more (A) the fund-  
21      ing for an existing program, project, or activity, or  
22      (B) the numbers of personnel therefor as approved  
23      by Congress; or

1           (3) results from any general savings from a re-  
2       duction in personnel which would result in a change  
3       in an existing program, project, or activity.

4       (b) NOTICE OF REORGANIZATION.—The Secretary  
5       shall provide notice to the Committee on Commerce,  
6       Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Com-  
7       mittee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House  
8       of Representatives not later than 15 days before any  
9       major reorganization of any program, project, or activity  
10      of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

○